GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3708
ANSWERED ON:21.03.2001
WAIVING OF SANCTIONS AGAINST CHINA
SUSHIL KUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether US has decided to waive sanctions against China for Missile technology transfer to Iran and Pakistan;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the checks, if any, on Pakistan and Iran against acquisition and development of missile technology including long range missile technology; and

(c) the threat being posed to India as a result of the said US decision?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI U.V. KRISHNAM RAJU)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) On 21 November, following China`s announcement that it will not assist any country to develop ballistic missiles that can be used to deliver nuclear weapons and will strengthen its export controls towards this end, USA declared that it had decided to waive sanctions imposed earlier on Chinese entities for past assistance to missile programmes in Iran and Pakistan, and also to resume cooperation with China in the launching of civilian satellites on Chinese platforms.

(c) India has, several times in the past, voiced its grave concern about missile proliferation and the adverse impact that this has on the security environment in our region. Such missile proliferation has, unfortunately, continued in recent years despite assurances to the contrary. Government has, in a Statement issued on 22 November 2000, underlined the expectation that, with the implementation of the measures intended by China as per its 21 November announcement, this process of proliferation may be halted.